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FLASH BACK

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

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Preserving the Past for the Future

FLASHBACK

Washington County Historical Society

118 EAST DICKSON ST. FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72701

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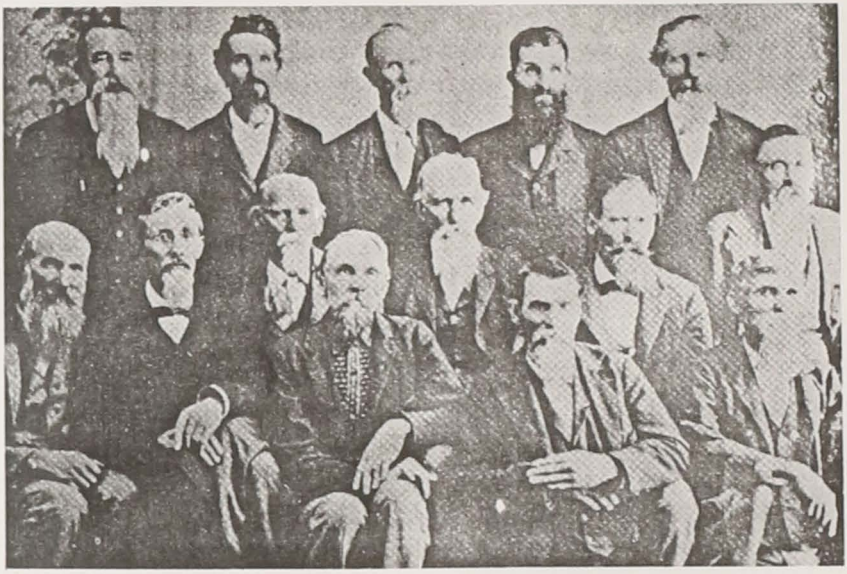
With Honors of War



Twenty five years after the Battle of Pea Ridge these men met there for a reunion of the Blue and the Gray. They were a part of the five hundred men who met at Pea Ridge in 1888.

Co. F, 15th Northwest Arkansas Infantry
Top row, left to right—
Bob Heckman, Jim Lee, Newt Harris, Bill Lee, Bob Webb.
2nd row, left to right—
John Grogory, Jack Maxwill, Capt. Etris, Jack Goad, Robt. M. Phillips, Pomp Patterson, Cotton.
3rd row, left to right—
Jim Cavness, Tom Kendericks, Bill Carden.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1st: Rain.

Sept. 2nd: Clear. Divided the mess today.

Sept. 3rd: Clear.

Sept. 4th, 5th, and 6th: Ditto. Orders to leave this evening. We packed up and went over west of town.

Sept. 7th and 8th: Ditto. Knocking around.

Sept. 9th: Clear. J. Wicker bought a $5 watermelon. Capt. Hobbs came over and paid us off. I drew $21.50.

Sept. 10th: Ditto.

Sept. 11th: Clear. A. Y. Pyeatte and Denton went to the General Hospital and helped to carry ---Didk?--- to the depot.

(C. Denton belonged to Co. H.)

Sept. 12th: Clear. I went to town. The reg't were there and they left for Iuka.

Sept. 13th & 14th: Cloudy & clear.

Sept. 15th & 16th: Cloudy.

Sept. 17th 18th: Rain. I am on guard today.

Sept. 19th & 20th: Clear. Capt. Bush and Lt. Ink came up today.

Sept. 21st: Clear. On guard.

Sept. 22nd: Ditto. Capt. B. came up here this morning.

Sept. 23rd: Cloudy. About 40 left for their commands.

Sept. 24th & 25th: Ditto. T. Fitswater killed a pork last night.

Sept. 26th: Clear.

Sept. 27th & 28th: Cloudy. W. Hanks and J. Moyers came in today.

Sept. 29th: Cloudy.

Sept. 30th: Clear.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1st: Clear.

Oct. 2nd: Rain. Pyeatte and Wicker started to the Reg't but the cars ran off the track and they came back.

Oct. 3rd, 4th, 5th, & 6th: Clear. W. Hanks left. News of a battle at Corinth.

Oct. 7th & 8th: Clear. We got orders to cook rations and get ready to move at any time. (While we staid here we were always knocking around and trading for something to eat and every other devilment we could get into, etc., etc.)

Oct. 9th: Clear. I went to the country and got our canteens, came back and went to town with all our effects. Batts(Bafes) and I

were detailed. We put some wounded men aboard and then the commissaries on the 12 h. train and at 1 h. we started for Interprise. We got to Artesia at 7 h. p.m. Laid by all night. Slept on top of the cars.

Oct. 10th: Clear and warm. The train started at 7 h. passed Macon and got into the piney woods at 9 h. The train ran over a mule and knocked it off. It rained a hard shower this evening. The train stalled, broke two or three links and tord? & catched vorn? awhile. We at last got started and went like a flash. Got to Meridian at sundown and switched around till dark. We staid in the cars till morning. Slept at the depot.

Oct. 11th: Cloudy and cold. We changed cars and started to Enterprise at 8 h. got to Enterprise at 12 h. bought some eatables, etc. We got into some old storehouses and we drew loaf bread, beef, etc. and bought everything at a reasonable price.

Oct. 12th: Cloudy. We fixed a table today.

Oct. 13th: Cloudy. Our baggage came down to(day).

Oct. 14th: Clear to 18th: Ditto. I reported to go to the command. We cooked up a lot of rations etc. We got ready by 10 h. and got aboard the cars and ran up to Meridian. We staid here till 9 h. After changing cars 2 or 3 times we started at 9 h. and got to Jackson at 8 h. a.m.

Oct. 19th: Clear. We lay by here all day and night. We knocked around town.

Oct. 20th: Clear. We went up town bought some articles and drew rations, etc. J. Henderson came to us today. He was a paroled prisoner. I loaned him $5. We took an extra train and left Jackson at dark and got to Canton at 11 p.m. We laid by till morning. We tied ouselves on the cars and slept on the way.

Oct. 21st: Clear and warm. We (got to) Canton at 8 h. a.m. and got to Water Valley at 9 h. p.m. We were out of rations and the boys, Ford, Texas, etc. were calling for something to eat, etc.

Oct. 22nd: Clear. We got some biscuit, etc. and T. May and some others stole some chickens which we ate for breakfast. We left at 8 h. and got to Oxford at 11 h. Nine miles above Oxford a train ran off the track and we backed down to Ox---? and staid all night. I got my dinner etc. and for nothing. We got some potatoes and killed a mudlark and double quicked.

Oct. 23rd: Clear. We left Oxford at 8 h. and went to Waterford by 12

h. We got off and cooked our pork and ate dinner. We then started and found the Reg't. at Dumpkin's Mill two miles distance.

Oct. 24th: Clear. We drew flour for the last time.

Oct. 25th: Cool and cloudy. Windy and smokey, more smoke and now smoke/ smoke/ smoke/

Oct. 26th: Clear. Windy and smoke still. Capt. E. bought l0 bu. of potatoes for the company.

Oct. 27th: Clear. I went into J. Pierson's mess. Writing a letter.

Oct. 28th: Ditto. Still writing.

Oct. 30th: Ditto. Capt. Hobbs left for Arkansas.

Oct 3lst: Clear. A. F. Pyeatte came in today. Division review by Gen. Boen (Bowen?) Brigade drill today.

NOVEMBER

Nov. lst: Ditto. Brigade drill. The boys fighting sham battles, etc.

Nov. 2nd: Clear. I am on guard today at the mill.

Nov. 3rd: Ditto. General review by Genls. Van Dorn, Price etc. I went to see J. N.

Nov. 4th: Clear. Company and battalion drill.

Nov. 5th: We had rations to cook. Last night at l h. I was sick and did not cook. We (the sick) went to Waterford. We staid at the depot all day. We got potatoes free. We went to the timber and roasted our potatoes. Staid all night.

Nov. 6th: Clear. We went to the depot and staid all day. Hanks, Morrow and Wicher went to the country. B. Stout and I got on the train at 9 a.m. I got off at Grenada at l a.m.

Nov. 7th: Clear. We staid at the depot last night. We bought some bread and meat for breakfast. We then went to the hospital. Went to the boat to get our letters exchange.

Nov. 8th: Clear. I went to town, changed a $5 bill for $22.50. Reported for duty. About 40 with us. We went to the depot and staid 3 hours. Got aboard the cars at dark and started and ran to Water Valley and staid and washed potatoes till morning.

Nov. 9th: Clear. We left Water Valley at 8 h. and got to Abbeville at 2 h. after starting three times. We drew rations and staid all night.

Nov. l0th: Clear. We drew beef this morning. The officers turned us

over to Capt. Kay (Key?). They put us in charge of J. Price. We went to camp two miles distant. The men were out throwing up breastworks.

Nov. 11th: Clear. We started to work before sunrise this morning. We worked all day; 1/2 of the men at a time started to camp at sunrise.

Nov. 12th: Raining this morning. We worked on the trenches all day. It was muddy and very hard work.

Nov. 13th: Cloudy. We rested. We drew knapsacks, clothing and guns, etc.

Nov. 14th: Clear. The officers making muster rolls. J. M. Wilson started home yesterday.

Nov. 15th: Cloudy. We drew names today. I drew $33.00 and spent $7.75 for.....paper.

Nov. 16th: Cloudy. J. Moyers came back today. We moved camp west of town two miles.

Nov. 17th: Cloudy. I am on guard today. L. Stout under guard.

(L. J. Stout was a member of Caldwell's company)

Nov. 18th: Cloudy. I gave Billy 50 cts. to clean my gun.

Nov. 19th: Clear. I wrote a letter. Mr. L. Bell was buried with honors of war. We all attended his funeral.

(L. J. Bell was in Co. A. of Johnson's 15th Regt.)

Nov. 20th: Clear. We shifted camp today. I bought a bu. of dried fruit.

Nov. 21st: Clear. The sutler gave N. Crawford a pair of shoes (for $12.50). Still on parade as usual.

(Newton Crawford was a sergeant and lieutenant in Company H.)

Nov. 22nd: Clear and frosty. I went to town today bought some articles, etc. Several foot races this week.

Nov. 23rd: Clear and frosty. We bought more rooter? Reg'tal inspection this morning.

Nov. 24th: Clear. Skirmish drill, battle line etc.

Nov. 25th: Cloudy and cool. Cleaning up camps, guns, etc.

Nov. 26th: Clear and windy. Battalion and company drill etc. We bought some buttermilk.

Nov. 27th: Ditto. I am on detail hauling trade. We had a game of lase? by moonlight.

Nov. 28th: Ditto. Drill as usual. I bought a hog for $19 dollars. We kept 1/2 of it.

Nov. 29th: Clear. Orders last night at 12 m. to cook 3 days rations which we did. I am on guard today. We drew some clothing hettles, etc.?

Nov. 30th: Baggage was sent off. We hear cannons firing.

Nov. 31st: Cloudy. I came off of duty and found all ready to march, which we did at 11 a.m. We went 1/2 mile north, formed line of battle and staid all night. It rained most all night and we laid and stood in it all night.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1st: We took up the line of march at daylight for Granada. My shoes came to pieces this morning and marcing in the mud my feet got sore and I fell behind. I caught up at Oxford, but could not keep up. I went three miles beyond town and staid all night at a house. Bought some potatoes and roasted (them).

Dec. 2nd: Cloudy and rainy. I started at 9 h. my foot still very sore. I bought a pair of shoes on the way. I got to Springdale tank at 11 h. I boarded the cars; played pass on the conductor. I got off at a woodshed 8 miles above Granada at 9 p.m. It was still raining. The.....trade.

Dec. 3rd: Clearing off I went to a house and got some sewing done. Staid all night.

Dec. 4th: Raining. I left Mr. Brooks and travelled north and met the command in 2 miles. Turned back and got withing 3 m. of Granada and camped. It was raining and very disagreeable. We pitched tents, cooked supper, etc.

Dec. 5th: Cloudy and cool. We marched at 8 h. halted at Granada an hour. We then went on 10 miles west of town. Camped without tents. Cold and frosty. Gen. Rust fought the Feds at Copperville.

Dec. 6th: Clear and warm. I went to the camp of the Windsor? Wilson? Guards and took dinner with Lieutenant Christian.

Dec. 7th: Clear and cool. I went to preaching this evening in the 19th Reg't.

Dec. 8th: Clear. I had a chill today. We bought a turkey for Christmas at $2.00.

Dec. 9th: Clear. We moved over to the bottom this morning to (Camp Rogers).

Dec. 10th: Clear and pleasant. We cleaned up camp today.

Dec. 11th: Rainy. Brickey came in today.

Dec. 12th: Mr. Appleby and W. Hanks came in today.

Dec. 13th: (mismarked 12th): Cloudy. W. Hanks went out and bought a rooster for $10.00. Bob staid....all night. BAP? bought pipe $7.50. We cooked rations.

Dec. 14th: Cloudy. The reg't went out as wagon guard today. I staid at camp and wrote a letter to send by Mr. Appleby.

Dec. 15th: Cloudy and heavy rain. I went to the country and got some pepper, etc. Got lost in the rain, etc. We made a lot of sausage. Earl's regiment of cavalry started out for Holly Springs tonight.

Dec. 16th: Clear. We sunned our clothers tent, etc.

Dec. 17th: Clear. I cleaned up my guns etc. Horse race today.

Dec. 18th: Clear. I am on guard today. The boys dug a well etc. We had roast turkey for dinner.

Dec. 19th: Clear. W. Hank and I went fishing. I crossed the river and got some canes, 35 feet long. We (buisted) them in the fire for amusement. We had a darkey to whistle for us for which I paid him $1.00.

Dec. 21st: Clear. I. Bell, J. Edwards and others came in today.

(John Edwards was in Co. A of the 15th N.W. Ark. Regt.)

Dec. 22nd: Clear. Drilled etc. I went to preaching tonight.

Dec. 23rd: Cloudy.

Dec. 24th: Cloudy. We were called up at 4 h. a.m., cooked 2 day's rations and started to town at sunrise, passed through town at 3 h. and went out south of town 1 m. for review. The other divisions were all in position and presented a fine appearance. We were then reviewed by President (Jeff) Davis. Gens. Johnston, Price, etc. It took about 2 hours to march and review which made it after dark berfore we all got by. We marched 2 miles west of town and staid all night. Was kept very comfortable without fire and only one blanket.

Dec. 25th: Cloudy. We were on the road by daylight and got to camp at 12 h. The company ate dinner together of roast turkey, stewed fruit and all together a good dinner. The boys made blasts in trees etc. and had sham women dressed up and all sorts of devilment. I cooked 2 days rations to go on picket.

Dec. 26th: Cloudy. We started at reveille and got to the river at 8 h. We got a canoe and crossed the river and got boards and made a shed. We had just got it done when it began raining hard.

Dec. 27th: Cloudy. I went on post at sunrise and stood 2 h. we knocked around and fished, etc. The boys went foraging. Brought in some potatoes. We heard cannon firing today.

Dec. 28th: Clear. Sunday I lay around and read, watched the boys ride, etc. We had coon for dinner. At dark Col. Stirman brought us orders to go to Grananda. We started at dark and got to camp within 1/2 m. of town at 11 h.p.m. (15 miles). We then cooked 3 days rations and then slept till morning.

(Col. E. I. Stirman was in headquarters of the 2nd Brigade of Bowen's Division at Camp Rogers, Minn, on Dec. 28, 1862 writing to his sister. "In Fine Spirits", war time letters of Stirman, published by WCHS)

Dec. 29th: Cloudy. We cooked another day's rations, and pitched tents. Rain tonight.

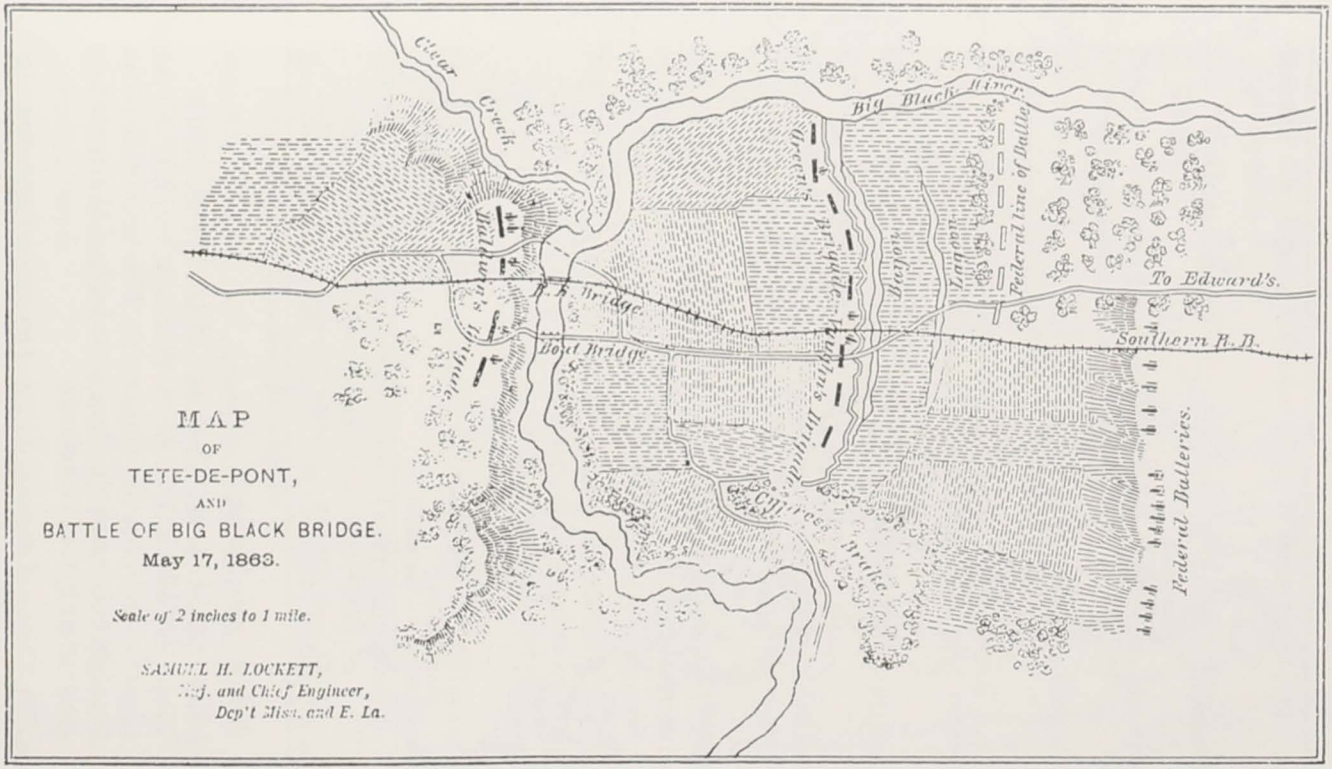
Dec. 30th: Cloudy and stormy. We lay around and write letters. Bird selling pork and men all day.

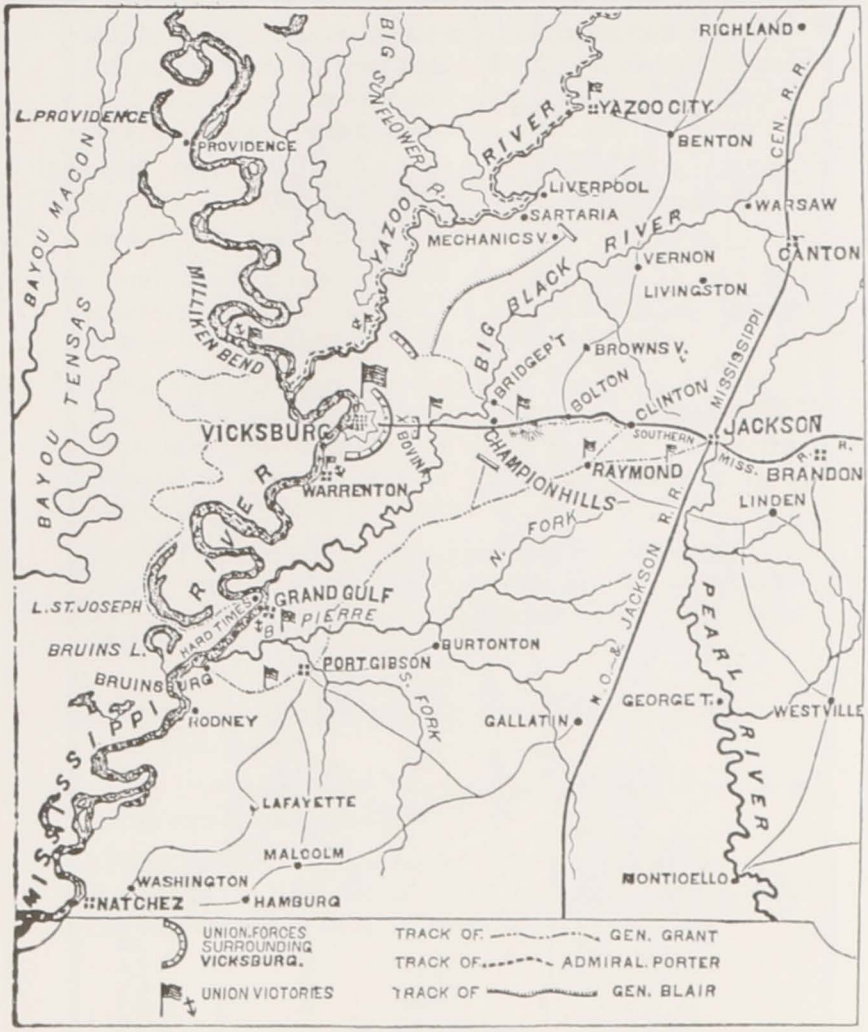
Dec. 31st: Clear and frosty and warm. We were mustered this morning by Col. Reynolds and drew 2 mos. wages. I drew $22.00. Mr. Appleby and H. Douglass started for Arkansas.

1863
JANUARY

Jan. 1st: Clear, cool and frosty. We had our breakfast this morning. English & Younger Co. J. had a skirmish. The news came of the fight at Vicksburg. Our men victorious taking five stand of colors and 400 prisoners. I got Pyeatte's pass and went to town. I weigh today, 158 lbs. Dress parade and company drill. We drew beef and meal and got something to eat.

Jan. 2nd: Cloudy and rain. We moved two miles soootheast of town. I was on detail to clean off the color line. It commenced raining at


Clear Creek
Big Black River
Federal line of Battle
Rebel line of Battle
To Edward's.
R. R. Bridge
Road Bridge
Southern R. R.
Federal Batteries.
Rebel Batteries
Rebel Batteries
Rebel Batteries



VICKSBURG AND VICINITY.

dark and rained all night.

Jan. 3rd: Still raining, and rained most all day. We stretched a blanket and cooked under it. The river rising very fast. Our things all got wet and it was very disagreeable. Four hours of hard rain last night, but cleared off. News of the battle of Murfreesboro, a great victory by the Confederates.

Jan. 5th: Clear and pleasant. I cleaned my gun and got a spring to put in my revolver, etc.

Jan. 6th: Rain last night but clear today. We drew pork today. I shot off my pistol.

Jan. 7th: Clear. I got my pistol fixed and traded it for a watch. Got $l0 to boot.

Jan. 8th: Rain. We staid in the tent all day. News of Bragg's retreat from Murfreesboro.

Jan. 9th: Cloudy. News of the capture of Galveston, etc. Rain all evening and night. Everything got wet.

Jan. l0th: Clear. I sold my watch for $32.00. The feds have possession of Baton Rouge. Chcueluck (chuck-a-luck), lottery and raffling all the go.

Jan. llth: Clear and pleasant (Sunday). Inspection and parade as usual. We lay around and read.

Jan. l2th: Clear and warm. I am on guard, acted as serg't. We moved five miles south of town on the hill. We started at 3 h. and got to town at sun down.

Jan. l3th: Cloudy. J. Pierson went out and bought two hogs; let the company have part of them. Orders on parade for no more Chcueluck and cards after tattoo. 7 on Sunday.

Jan. l4th: Rain last night and today. I got a pass and went to town, bought a hat for $l0 and some cegars, etc. I was detailed to go for rations after dark to Bride company. It was dark and raining. It rained all night and running in under us.

Jan. l5th: Rain, snow and sleet all day. We got poles and floored our tent. Turned cold.

Jan. l6th: Clear, cold, and disagreeable. Orders for inspection (camp). The arms were stacked but no inspection.

Jan. l7th: Clear and cold. Smokey. J. Pierson sick. I went to town. Bought some articles. Got the fry pan.

Jan. l8th: Clear and cold. Inspection. Camp inspection parade. I wrote a letter to send by Inks. J. Edwards took 5 canteens of whiskey from boss. We drank the whiskey and threw the canteeen in the fire yesterday.

Jan. l9th: Rain and cool. We lay around and read. Orders to be ready to march.

Jan. 20th: Cloudy and cool. I bought $2 worth of needles to send

home. Orders on parade that the officers return to their own company. Ballou came around after dark with whiskey to sell. Some of Co. H. took him to the Col's tent. Brickey took off his canteens and gave them to the Col. He treated us on some and poured the rest out. Directly partner boss came around and we served him the same way. I took them to the Provost Guard. News that Graham and Dorton had gone north.

(Edward T. Dorton, Co. A. l5th)

Jan. 21st: Cleared off. B. A. took John to the country. We drew closthing, cups and buckets etc.

Jan. 22nd: Cleared off. The officers met and offered a reward for Dorton and Graham. Capt. Irvin came back today.

Jan. 23rd: Cloudy. Hanks and Morrow went to the country.

Jan. 24th: Rain. Hank and Morrow went to the country, (repeated) for forage, and B. A. and I for milk for John. Lt. Caldwell started home. Orders at dark to cook 3 days rations. I borrowed a gun, got off guard. I stand at headquarters.

Jan. 25th: Cloudy & rain. B. A. took John to the country. We laid around all day.

Jan. 26th: Cloudy and rain. Orders to cook one day's rations at 4 h. We packed up and left for Grananda. Eight hours. We staid at town an hour or two. Crawford and I went to the post office. Crawford got a letter full of envelopes. I broke open one but it was not mine. We got back to the camp just in time to start towards Jackson. We got to Duck Hill and lay by 3 or 4 hours. It came up a hard storm of wind and rain. We charged a car of potatoes and took them. We left Duck Hill at dark and travelled very slow, laying by one half of the time. It was raining, blowing, sleeting, snowing and freezing. We lay by an hour where a car had run off.

Jan. 27th: Cold and cloudy. We got to Canton at l0 h. We had fires on the cars last night and today. We travelled the same slow way and got to Jackson at sun down. Passed through town and stopped for the night. Some got off and made fires and some staid on the cars. I went to the depot and drew headkerchiefs or sugar "28. Clear and cool. We staid on the cars most all day. Several of us went to town. We avoided the guard and got back alright which many did not do. We then marched one mile south of town and

camped. There were a number of drunk men around. We got leaves and put in our tent. I had a good night's rest.

Jan. 29th: Clear. I cleaned up my gun, etc. Norwood played the sentinel on some men and made them leave their plank.

Jan. 30th: Clear and pleasant. I am on guard today. There was a meeting of the reg't to select a name, two names were proposed. Boon's and the N.W. The Northwest was deeded almost unanimously. J. Nelson here, he showed me a letter from Doc.

Jan 3lst: Clear morning, cloudy evening. The division was reviewed by Gen. Brown. We went about 3 m. to review. I came back on the railroad. The first Brigade were uniformed and presented a fine apppearance.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 1st: Rain last night and today. We lay around and read all day. Dress parade. Lt. Col. Krider commanding reg't.

Feb. 2nd: Raining. I am on detail to cut stumps, etc.

Feb. 3rd: Clear and cool. J. Hanks went to town, bought some lard, beef, bread and candy, etc. B. A. bought $5 worth of flour at 42 cents per lb. We cooked 3 d rations. Orders on parade that none go out of the guard line without a pass, etc.

Feb. 4th: Rain and sleet. Mr. Forbet here this morning. Brought bad news from Arkansas. We loaded our wagons and went to the depot at 8 h. We then loaded the cars and left. We got off 1/2 mile from Black River in a swamp. Made rail fires, pitched tents and staid till morning.

Feb. 5th: Snowing slightly this morning. Cool and cloudy all day. We made a big gum fire.

Feb. 6th: Clear and frosty. I went and got some turnips, etc.

Feb. 7th: Clear and pleasant. I went out on pickett. I and Dock went on a great duck hunting. We bought potatoes and roasted them and rode in a dugout and had a fine time.

Feb. 8th: Cloudy and warm. We knocked around till ll h. when we were relieved. I went to camp. J. Pierson came in yesterday. I bought $2 worth of buttons at $l.50 a lb.

Feb. 9th: Clear, fine spring weather. We moved a mile and camped on a ridge. Cloudy.

Feb. 10th: Clear and warm. I was on detail to clean up camp. We worked until I was released with orders to move. We struck tents, packed up and moved across the railroad.

Feb. 11th: Clear and rain. We drew clothing and I drew a shirt and uniform. Orders to appear on parade in Uniform came.

Feb. 12th: Rainy. J. Pierson went to the country. The musicians drew a (Libley?) tent and pitched it. We moved into the company and got a plank and made bunks. I had a slight chill today.

Feb. 13th: Cloudy. I am on guard today.

Feb. 14th: Cloudy. Firing at Vicksburg last night. A gun boat passed down. We lay round all day.

Feb. 15th: Rainy. Rained all last night. Thunder, rain, mud, water slop, etc.

Feb. 16th: Raining, the same as yesterday. We bought $5 worth of beans at 75 cts a lb.

Feb. 17th: Raining as usual. J. Nelson here.

Feb. 18th: Cloudy and cool. Firing at Vicksburg all day.

Feb. 19th: Clear and windy. Drying up the mud. I am on guard. The officers got back from Jackson. The river still rising. We struck tent and sunned our clothes.

Feb. 20th: Clear and fine. News of the capture of the Queen of the West. Orders on parade to let none off guard with clean guns?

Feb. 21st: Hard rain and clear. Heavy firing at Vicksburg last night. Orders this morning for none to go out without a ticket. There was considerable dissatisfaction and several forced the guards and I was arrested. N. Baggett of Co. G. was sentenced to 30 hours labor under guard for missing parade. Capt. Evins got back from Brandon.

Feb. 22nd: Clear and cloudy. We got our-----(payer) money. Orders that payment be stopped til the sugar was paid for, also that none stay out over 30 minutes. Very heavy firing at Vicksburg today.

Feb. 23rd: Clear. Company and Battalion drill.

Feb. 24th: Clear and warm. I am on guard today.

Feb. 25th: Cloudy. Heavy firing at Vicksburg last night. I went to the first brigade, saw Nelson, McAmie and others. Hard rain this evening.

Feb. 26th: Hard rain all day. I went on detail after beef. Went to the gin then got our beef and waded back to camp through the water. N. Edmonson came in from Arkansas.

Feb. 27th: Cloudy. I wrote in my journal. Parade as usual.

Feb. 28th: Clear. Our brigade serenaded Gen. Price. He made a speech and promised to take us to Arkansas. The men were all in high spirits.

Vicksburg.

MARCH

Mar. 1st: Clear and warmer. The division was reviewed by Gen. Price and Bowen. I wrote a letter and sent home by Mr. Clary. Wrote in my journal.

Mar. 2nd: Clear and warm. We drew two pounds of bacon. We had been without meat four days.

Mar. 3rd: Clear and warm. Drill and parade as usual. Cannon firing at Vicksburg. We drew 2 months wages $22. 12 month men drew bounty.

Mar. 4th: Clear. Writing in my journal. We drew camp equipage, clothing etc. Drill and parade. Firing at Vicksburg.

Mar. 5th: Clear. I went on detail to carry sacks across the bridge. The cars stopped by a break in the bridge.

Mar. 6th: Cloudy. A steam boat passed up the river this morning. I have a severe boil on my neck.

Mar. 7th: Clear. The boys got their discharge at detail orders to act for recruits. Commanding at the river.

Mar. 8th: Clear and windy. Capt. Evins left for Ark. I wrote some letters, but was too late to send them. May, Marrs, Norwood, and B. Stout, also started home. Inspection this morning.

Mar. 9th: Cool and cloudy. I am on guard today. There were elections in four companies for lieutenant. N. Crawford was elected in Co. H. Our chaplain, Mr. Reagan came to the Reg't. The first brigade started to Grand C Gulf.

Mar. l0th: Cool and cloudy. Hard rain last night. Rain today. Sutton came in from Arkansas.

Mar. llth: Clear. Gen. Green took command of the brigade.

Mar. l2th: Clear. Drill parade, etc. I went to preaching tonight. Mr. Reagan preached. There was mourners.

Mar. l3th: Clear. We moved back across the railroad to our former camp which the first brigade left. I went to preaching tonight.

Mar. l4th: Clear and warm. I am on guard today. Acted orderly at preaching tonight.

Mar. l5th: Rainy. There was preaching by Dr. Bennette, the brigade chaplain.

Mar. l6th: Clear and warm. Drill parade, etc. preaching tonight.

Mar. l7th: Clear and warm. Capt. Davis, Hobbs, and Stewart got back from Arkansas.

Mar. l8th: Clear. R. Ink got a letter from Miss Em Hagood.

Mar. l9th: Clear. I am on fatique detail. Evening drill and picket detail to the bridge.

Mar. 20th: Clear. We knocked around and fished, etc. The Mo'ian(?) caught a large fish. I bought a canteen of milk for dinner at 50 cts. We started to come at sundown, met a train at the bridge.

Mar. 2lst: Clear. Review inspection. Camp inspection by Gen Green.

Mar. 22nd: Clear. Preaching by the Brigade Chaplain. The camp full of Negroes trading, getting clothes, etc.

Mar. 23rd: Cloudy and rainy. Heavy firing on the river.

Mar. 24th: Cool and rainy. W. H. and I went to the depot. Lt. Harrison went to Jackson. I went to the bridge on picket.

Mar. 25th: Clear and warm. Cold night. We caught a fish and it was stolen. The steamboat T. D. Hine came up this morning loaded with bacon.

Mar. 26th: Clear. I went on detail to unload the boat. We sent for rations and drew bacon for dinner. We hid four hands in the hold. But the mate yanked it off out of our way. We got to camp at sundown. One gunboat sank and one crippled at Vicksburg yesterday.

Mar. 27th: Cloudy. It is fast day. We went to preaching.

Mar. 28th: Cloudy. Firing at Vicksburg. Policing camp and cleaning my own. Review by Gen. Fornery of the 2nd Brigade.

Mar. 29th: Clear and cloudy. Storm last night several tents blown down and some men crippled by falling trees. I am on guard today. I ate fish with McMellen. Very cold and windy.

Mar. 30th: Cold and cloudy. We played shinney. Bynam and Wallace had a skirmish.

Mar. 3lst: Clear. I bought a line and some hooks at $2.

APRIL

April lst: Clear and pleasant. We hauled wood. I went to the bridge on guard. The steamboat P. E. Banford came up this evening.

April 2nd: Clear and warmer. We fished and knocked around the boat. I got a good dinner for $l. We got to camp at sunset.

April 3rd: Clear. Reg't. cleaning off drill ground.

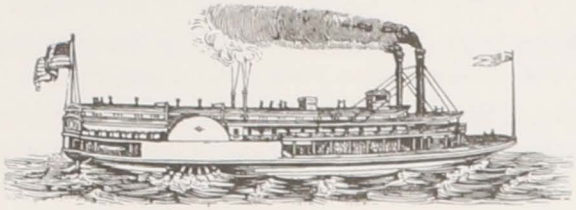
April 4th: Clear. We went fishing this evening. Crawford & Henderson came back. I staid all night. Nailor & Pyeatte started home.

April 5th: Clear. I went to camp this morning. Lay around and read all day. Went to preaching tonight.

April 6th: Clear and warm. Lt. Harrison went to Jackson. Drill and parade as usual.

The following is written in pencil by a friend. James A.

Caldwell is supposed to have been killed in action at Battle of Bayou Peirre May lst l863. He was faithfully discharging his duty to his county. He was in front of his company, in fact most of his command fighting very bravely. He was shot in the forehead. Some of his command took him back to the rear and had to leave him in a very few minutes, when they supposed he was expiring. A noble soldier he was and a noble young man he was taken from his comrades and fellow soldiers without a moment's warning. He left a great many friends and no enemies in his command.



Ahnentafel Chart

Submitted by Carol Myles, 8817 Honeysuckle Street, Anchorage, AK 99502; granddaughter of Nellie Frances McCurdy (#1 on chart).

#1 Nellie Frances McCURDY, b. 19 Sept 1910 Benton Co., AR; m. (1st) Louis Emmett McCLURE (b. 4 Jan 1906 Delaware, AR; d. 16 may 1960 Oxnard, CA) on 15 July 1930 in Dardanelle, AR; (2nd) Harry HESS on 23 June 1962 in Las Vegas, NV

#2 Jasper Marvin McCURDY, b. 29 Nov 1883 Benton Co., AR; m. 23 Oct 1909 Benton Co, AR; d. 12 Jan 1941 Benton Co., AR.

#3 Eva Grace HORNSBY, b. 22 Sept 1890 Benton Co., AR; d. 22 Nov 1971 Benton Co., AR.

#4 Robert Dickson McCURDY, b. 1 Dec 1836 Washington Co., AR; m. 13 Jan 1861 Benton Co., AR; d. 2 Dec 1908 Benton co., AR

#5 Armilda JEFFRIES, b. 8 Jan 1841 Overton Co., TN; d. 3 Sept 1913 Benton co., AR

#6 Richard "Dick" HORNSBY, b. 8 Aug 1859 Hardeman Co., TN: m. 19 May 1889 Benton Co., AR; d. 20 Mar 1928 Benton Co., AR

#7 Lydia Elizabeth Collins, b. 2 Reb 1873 Bright Water, Benton Co., AR; m. (2nd) Jim BERRY; (3rd) Charles P. BROOKS; d. 8 July 1950 Lanagan, McDonald Co., MO.

#8 Allen McCURDY, b. ca 1807 Bedford Co., TN; m. (1st) Elizabeth HERRIN on 9 Feb 1828 in Williamson Co., TN; (2nd) 1834-35 in Benton co., AR; d. between 11 mar 1837 and 26 Sept 1837 in Benton co., AR.

#9 Sarah Sharp Dickson, b. 15 Jan 1819 Rutherford Co., TN; m. (2nd) John BREATHWAITE (b. 23 July 1811/ d 18 June 1890); d. March 1892 in Benton Co. , AR

#10 James J. JEFFREYS, b. ca 1815 North Carolina.

#11 Obedient nee---, b. ca 1817 Overton co., TN; d. 22 Jan 1894 Cash Hollow, Benton Co, AR.

#12 Albert HORNSBY, b. ca 1836 Hardeman Co., TN

#13 Mary Elizabeth FIELD(S), b. ca 1836 Hardeman Co., TN

#14 Frank W. COLLINS, b. ca 1845 OH; m. ca 1871 Benton Co., AR

#15 Frances Ellen BURRIS or BURROWS, b. ca 1848 Pea Ridge, Benton Co., AR

#16 David McCURDY, Jr., b. ca 1769 Cumberland Co., PA; m. 25 Aug 1789 Cumberland Co., PA; d. before 1833 Williamson co., TN.

#17 Elizabeth APPLEBY, b. ca 1770 Cumberland Co., PA; d. 2 Oct 1845 Washington co., AR

#18 Robert DICKSON, b. 5 Now 1773 Charlotte, NC; m. 23 Mar 1796; d. 5 Feb 1849 Benton Co., AR

#19 Esther MOORE, d. in benton co., AR

#20-#23 unknown

#24 Kimbrough HORNSBY, b. Hardeman Co., TN; m. 6 Apr 1833 Hardeman Co., TN; d. 1848-1850 Hardeman Co., TN

#25 Martha Ann SEBASTIAN, b. ca 1817 TN

#26 John FIELD(S), b. ca 1780 VA

#27 Mary -----, b. ca 1797 GA

#30 Josiah Henninger BURRIS/BURROWS, b. ca 1817 TN; m. ca 1844 Benton Co., AR

#31 Elizabeth "Betsy" MISER, b. 1 Oct 1828 Bledsoe Co., TN; d. 6 Nov 1858 Benton Co., AR

#32 David McCURDY, Sr., b. ca 1728 Boston, MA(?); m. 20 Mar 1752 Cumberland Co., PA; d. 1795 Elbert Co., GA.

#33 Agnes WEAKLEY, b. 1730 Lancaster Co., PA; d. 1792 Cumberland Co., PA

#34 William APPLEBY, b. ca 1742 Ulster, No. Ireland

#35 Nannie MEGEHHIN, b. ca 1745 Ireland

#36 General Joseph DICKSON, b. 1740 NC; d. 1825 Rutherford Co., TN

#37 Margaret McEWEN, b. 1742; d. 1814 Rutherford Co., TN

#48 Ebenezer HORNSBY, b. ca 1773

#49 Catherine ---, b. ca 1776

#62 George Washington MISER I, b. 21 Jan 1807 Blount Co., TN; m. 18 Oct 1825 TN; d. 1861 Pear Ridge, Benton Co., AR

#63 Polly SWAFFORD, b. 25 Nov 1805 TN; d. 23 Nov 1842 Pea Ridge, AR.

#64 John McCURDY I, b. 1708 Antrim, Ireland; d. Mar 1761 Cumberland Co., PA.

#66 James WEAKLEY

#67 Jane WILSON

#74 James McEWEN

#75 Isabella MILLER

#124 John MISER

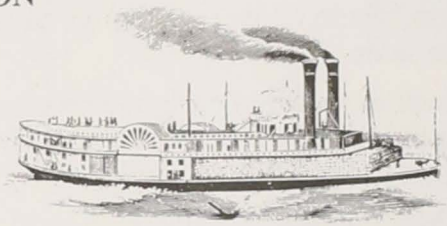
#125 Elizabeth HALE

#248 Henry MEISER

#496 Johann Michael MEISER

#992 Johann Jurg MEISSER

#67 Jane WILSON



The article entitled "Fond Memories of Sarah Morton" by Margaret Dutton Matthews in the February "Flashback" brought to my mind so many happy memories that I feel that I would like to share them.

Like Margaret, I felt much love for Aunt Sarah and considered her as my real aunt.

Aunt Sarah came to work for my mother when I was four years old and immediately my name became "baby", a name that she continued to call me even after I entered the University of Arkansas.

She arrived at our house every Monday morning, rain or shine to do the family washing. If it was raining she would say "I think it is going to clear up soon!" The laundry was done and hung on the clothes line regardless of the weather.

I looked forward to that day because Aunt Sarah always roasted potatoes and corn on the open fire beneath the big black wash kettle. The vegetables were carefully tended and turned, always perfectly cooked and so delicious, a very special treat for me.

She used the ashes from the fire to make hominy for us, from the white corn that my father gave her. Those large white kernals were never duplicated by anyone.

Aunt Sarah was very fond of my perfume and would often ask for a little bit of it to "wear to church".

We visited her immaculate house in "Tin Cup", took food to her when she was sick. It was through her invitations that we often visited her church for services or dinners, where we were the honored guests and were given choice seats.

Much as we loved each other we could never get her to eat at the table with us. She would always have something else that had to be done, until we had finished our meal.

When she died, we felt as if an immediate member of our family was gone. No one could ever take her place in our lives and hearts.

by Helen Freyschlag Wade

(I am enclosing a picture with my Brownie Box Kodak). of Aunt Sarah, one of the first that I took

Can anyone identify these photographs? They were taken from the **SKELTON** family album. Please contact either David Palmer, 176 Van Horne Crescent NE, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2E6H1, or Vicki Rounsavall, 1949 Juneway Terrace, Fayetteville, AR 72703.

Lucile W. Prior, 262 Prior Lane, Atherton, CA 94027

WEBBER/WEBER: Rev. GEORGE E. WEBBER married NANCY WHITE in Maury Co., TN., in 1826 and came in 1829 to Washington Co., Ark. As guardian, he brought alone James Slown White, William Harvey White, and Clarissa Isabel White. Rev. Webber settled in Vineyard Twp. and was active and well-known in the community until his death. His father had come to Maury Co., TN, from Germany. Between 1850 and 1860 two more Webbers came from Baden, Germany, to Washington Co. and settled in Vineyard Twp. Listed on 1860 census were: JOHN WEBBER, age 30, a blacksmith, and NICHOLAS WEBBER, age 25, also a blacksmith. Nicholas' wife Elizabeth was also born in Baden. Nicholas and John were no doubt brothers who came over together. How were they related to Rev. GEORGE E. WEBBER? I am interested in exchanging data with anyone knowledgeable on any of these Webbers. Who were parents of Nancy (White) Webber? (William and Jane White of Maury Co., TN???)

PAT KELLEY, P.O. bOX 2267, Gig Harbor, WA 98335: Need information on William Kelley (b. 23 Dec 1801 in VA, d. 6 Jul 1874 in MO, lived in Washington Co, AR before the Civil War. He married ELIZABETH RAMEY B. 20 Apr 1801 in NC or KY, died 5 Oct 1874 in MO.

Need information on their children: SAMUEL H. KELLEY m. to JULIA ANN OLIVER; JAMES F.

The Renaissance of Old Main

Cyrus A. Sutherland

Old Main *(University Hall in officialese)* of the University of Arkansas, founded in 1871 (statement incised in one of the corner stones) celebrated its centennial in 1971. Even the least optimistic of the celebrants of that event would not have believed twenty years would be spent "bringing back Old Main". But it has been brought back.

On September 20-21, 1991, the rebirth, *Renaissance 1991*, will be celebrated in front of and inside the renovated building with pageantry and ceremony, music and oratory, banners and posters, souvenirs and feasting. It promises to be one of the most triumphant events ever staged at the University.

During the past two decades of its fenced-in vacancy, the planning of the renovation has been under the design and planning direction of Mott, Mobley, McGowan and Griffin, Ft. Smith architects. This twenty year interim was not devoted entirely to renovating the building. The majority of the time was spent in decision making, an almost continuous joint effort between architects, engineers, landscape architects and the University administration, faculty, students, and in certain instances, private donors and fund raisers. Several layouts of the interior spaces were prepared, revised, altered, submitted, only to be reconsidered, revised, and resubmitted for approval. That process simply confirmed the versatility of the building. Its history has been one of periodic, almost annual, changes of occupancy, and rearrangement of its interior, to accommodate the multi-discipline nature of a university.

In 1989, when major decisions were made final, most of the renovation contracts were let and actual renovation

work began. The entire project, including exterior landscaping, was declared complete in the spring of 1991 and occupancy commenced. Some summer classes have been held in the building, and most of the faculty offices have been occupied. Total use of the building will begin with Fall semester 1991.

A little publicized fact is that the architect of Old Main was John Mills Van Osdel, Chicago's first architect, who began his career in that pioneer town in 1837, only a year after Arkansas received statehood. When members of the University's first board of trustees visited the Universities of Michigan and Illinois in 1871 to learn all they could about the operation of Land Grant universities, they found University Hall at Illinois very appealing, so appealing in fact, they persuaded the Illinois administrators to give Arkansas the less-than-complete drawings and specifications of the building for possible use in Arkansas. Eventually the trustees and the building committee found the incomplete documents inadequate for contractors to bid on. In 1873 Board member Elhanan J. Searle, on a private trip to Illinois University at Urbana and to Chicago, visited architect John Van Osdel. There he learned, as is related in the minutes of the Arkansas Board of Trustees meeting, that the drawings of the Illinois building had been destroyed in the great Chicago fire in October 1871. However, Van Osdel offered to reproduce the drawings of the Illinois building for $1000. His offer was accepted by the Arkansas trustees. Contracts were let in Arkansas and construction began. The first classes were held in Arkansas' University Hall, the largest building in the state at the time, in September 1875.

The emphasis of this short article is on John Mills Van Osdel, architect of the original building, and on Mott, Mobley, McGowan & Griffin, architects of the renovation of the 100 year old building. Van Osdel was the only architect in Chicago during his first decade and produced some of the cities finest buildings between 1844 and the

Renovated Old Main, July 1991.

Fifth floor hallway with typical renovation carpeting and light fixtures, July 1991.

late 1850's; the mayor's mansion, the New Court House, and Tremont House Hotel, (described by one critic as "one of the chief ornaments of the city...of a class called princely"), the Palmer House Hotel, and dozens of residences and commercial buildings. Most of his works perished in the great fire of 1871, but not his out-of-town buildings. Particularly important to the state of Arkansas was the University Hall at Urbana, Illinois, in the Second Empire style, the most fashionable style of the day imported from France. Van Osdel remained a leading architect in Chicago until his death in 1892.

I will decline to be precise with costs figures, but I can not resist contemplating what Van Osdel's reaction would be if he could hear that his building, constructed in Fayetteville in the mid 1870's for approximately $200,000 has been renovated in 1991 for another century of service by Mott, Mobley, McGowan & Griffin for roughly $11 million. Nor can I resist contemplating Van Osdel's reaction if he could experience the splendor of the building in its renovated state, meeting as it does contemporary standards of fire control and safety, electric lighting, handsome and serviceable floor covering of tile and carpeting throughout (installed in many cases over the original wood flooring), all the conveniences of modern plumbing, automatic "*talking*" elevators, invisible temperature control systems, etc. Most of all I think he would be impressed by the visual appeal of the building by virtue of well chosen surface finishes, lighting fixtures, finish hardware, class-room and office furniture, attractive signage labeling floors, offices, classrooms and service spaces.

Old Main now has two architects: John Mills Van Osdel, designer of its original form, and Mott, Mobley, McGowan & Griffin, designers of it's new second century image. Everyone is invited to participate in the Renaissance 1991 festivities September 20- 21, 1991.

KELLEY m. to ELIZABETH ADKINS; MARY ANN KELLEY m. to JACOB M. BRADSHAW (he married CLARINDA CHANDLER also);

MARGARET C. KELLEY m. to JOHN W. PARKER; LEWIS (LOUIS) D. KELLEY m. ANNIE FARR; THOMAS KELLEY; RACHEL EM KELLEY m. JAMES JACKSON; JOSEPH T. KELLEY; ELIZABETH KELLEY; TELITHA KELLEY; WILLIAM OWEN KELLEY; ALACE (ALICE) R. KELLEY; SAREPTA CLEMENTINE KELLEY m. JOHN HENRY MITCHELL.

Would also like to make contact with the descendants of children of SARAH E. KELLEY m. LOREN PHILEMON GUTHRIE; SUSAN C. KELLEY m. GEORGE WASHINGTON MILLS; JAMES "WILLIAM" KELLEY m. SARAH ANN GUTHRIE; JOSEPH "HENRY" KELLEY m. UZELLA SIKES; W.T. "SHERMAN" KELLEY m. LYDIA RAMEY, PEARL SMITH, and MARY McNEIR; DAVID OWN KELLEY m. MARY JANE HUGHES; JEREMIAH "THOMAS" KELLEY m. NANCY ANN KEYS; NORA NEVADA KELLEY m. LAFAYETTE BRASHEARS; VIOLA KELLEY m. ANDREW COMBS; LINCOLN "EVERET" KELLEY m. PEARL HELEN LEHN.

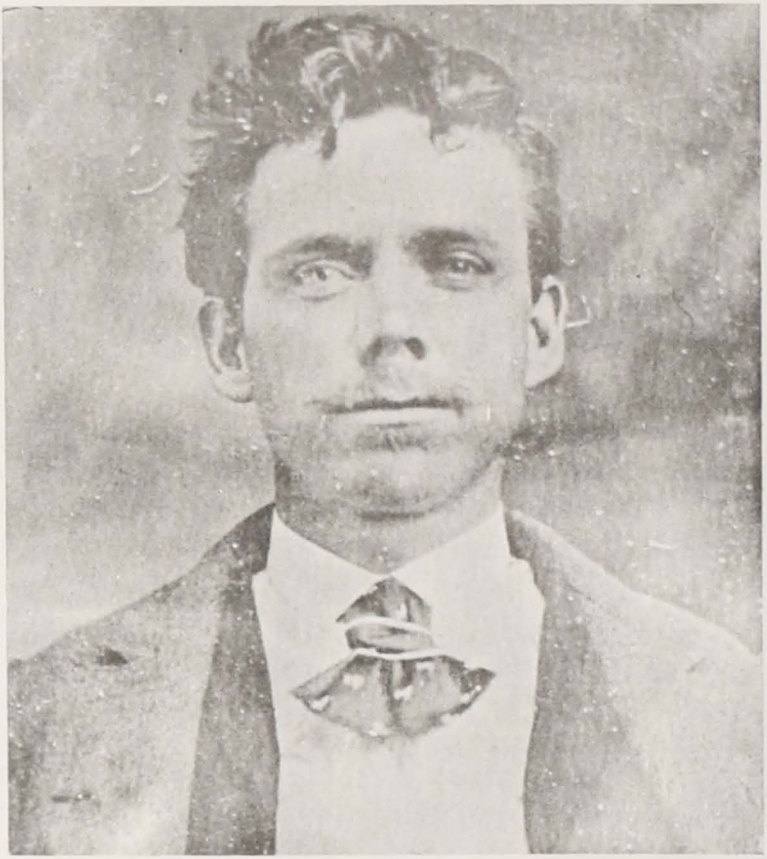
Would like to make contact with the descendants of children of WILLIAM M. CHANDLER m. ESTER (EASTER) HETTIE CHANDLER; JOHN C. CHANDLER m. Lydia; CLARINDA CHANDLER m. JACOB N. BRADSHAW; JEREMIAH CHANDLER m. SARAH MALISSA WILLIAMS; ELIZABETH CHANDLER; MARY HANE CHANDLER m. a MR. WILSON; MARY E. CHANDLER; HULDA CHANDLER; SARAH M. CHANDLER; THOMAS CHANDLER; JEREMIAH A. CHANDLER; ELVIRA

CHANDLER; HARRIET BRADSHAW m. JAMES McKINSEY; REBECCA E. BRADSHAW; LAURA CAROLINE BRADSHAW m. JOSEPH S. MAIN; JOSEPH H. BRADSHAW; HATTIE BRADSHAW; BENJAMIN BRADSHAW; WILLIAM OLIVER CHANDLER m. LULA B. ARNOLD; ELIZABETH CHANDLER; MOSES "WILBERN" CHANDLER m. AMANDA C. RANEY; SUSAN E. CHANDLER; GEORGE W. CHANDLER, RODEY COLUMBIA CHANDLER; JAMES GARFIELD CHANDLER; EPHRAIM CHANDLER; JOHN D. CHANDLER; LILLIA CHANDLER; CLAUDE CLAY CHANDLER; DOLLIE EVELYN CHANDLER m. THOMAS LESTER HUTCHENS; DESS McKENLEY CHANDLER m. MARY BELLE HUTCHENS; JIM CHANDLER m. Vivian and then DOROTHY OXFORD; ESTELL CHANDLER; FERREL CHANDLER; VELMA CHANDLER m. ELMO ROBB; WAYNE G. CHANDLER.

– Seeking any information on George W. BLAIR (born about 1864, married in Durham in 1887 to Amanda J. COLLINS). George possibly lived in Benton Co., AR in 1880. Write to Dan Pierce, 28437 N. Evergreen Lane, Saugus, CA 91350.

Flashback reports an error in our May 1991 issue on page 30... the Worthy Matron for 1942 listed as "Winnefred Kreth" should have been "Winnefred Nott."

People who Boast about Their Family Tree
have Usually Pruned it First.



Ervin Polk Williams, b. 5 May 1847, m. Bettie Dodson, Golden Anniversary at Inez, NM. He was son of Rial and Kitty Sandesa Phillips Williams.

GETTING TO KNOW POLK WILLIAMS

by Mrs. Bobby G. Wilson

A genealogy class instructor once amusingly said, "People leave at least three written records of their lives--when they are hatched, matched, and dispatched". But during the search for members of my Rial Williams clan of Richland Creek, other bits of information kept surfacing (mostly through newspaper microfilm) to add

"meat" to the slim profile of Polk Williams' birth, marriage, and death statistics. Knowledge of an Arkansas colony in New Mexico, a dramatic train wreck, and earlier Arkansas politics, were some of the things learned during my search.

Ervin Polk Williams was born 5 May 1847 on the farm his father, Rial Williams, homesteaded between Goshen and Tuttle. Polk was one of three children born of a second marriage. Rial and his first wife, Orpha Garret, had seventeen children before she died at age 42, leaving him with the dozen surviving children. Kitty Sanders' husband, David Phillips, died, leaving her with ten children. Not only did they marry and have three more children (one died), but they also took in Kitty's nephew, Jordon L. Banks, to raise as their own.

From family and other sources, I had learned that Polk married Bettie Shannon Dodson, in Washington County, Arkansas on 12 Mar 1874. She was the daughter of Betty Bryant Shannon, second wife of Rev. Thomas Dodson. Polk and Bettie never had children of their own, but raised one of Bettie's nephew's sons, Shannon Dodson, and two of Polk's deceased brother Burton Sanders Williams' sons, Bill and Tom, as well as nine others, since Polk's obituary said they were parents to twelve orphan children. (The 1880 Madison County, AR census lists three-year-old Norman Frazier as a "boarder".)

Earlier newspapers had community columns telling what was happening, and sometimes printed letters by local people on trips, or who had moved away and wanted to stay in touch with the folks back home. Fortunately, Polk Williams was such a man. (Writeups were taken from *SPRINGDALE NEWS* microfilm, unless otherwise noted.) 31 Aug 1906: Col. E. P. Williams of Johnson sold his farm in a big hurry to go to New Mexico. 21 Sep 1906: That long talked about trip of E. P. Williams, T. J. Mullins, and others who are pinning their faith on sections of land out

in New Mexico, will become a reality this week. 28 Sept 1906: Johnson, AR. A railroad carload of property went forward from Johnson last Saturday night for Portales, NM. Shannon Clark and Jim Mullins accompanied the car. E. P. Williams and wife, T. J. Mullins and wife, Charles Stearns, and Thomas Dodson will leave today for the same destination. They intend to settle out there and grow up with the country.

5 Oct 1906: *WRECKED AND BURNED.* Car containing goods of Washington County people burned. Word received that car containing household goods, stock, etc. of Polk Williams, Charles Stearns and Jeff Mullins, which left Johnson Saturday evening for New Mexico, was in a collision of two freight trains Sunday evening near Carthage, MO. The wreckage caught fire and several cars were burned, among the number being the car containing goods and chattels of those named. Shannon Clark was with the car, but so far as known was uninjured. In the car were seven head of horses, and six were rescued. Everything else was lost. We understand three train men were killed. The many friends of these gentlemen learn with regret of their misfortune, but their loss will only be temporary, as the railroad will no doubt make it good to them. 12 Oct 1906: Narrow Escape of Jim Mullins. Jim, son of Jeff Mullins, who together with Shannon Clark, was in the car containing household goods of Mullins, Williams, and Stearns, which was in a collision near Carthage, MO was painfully, and it was thought for a time, fatally injured. He was covered by debris and had to be dug out. For twenty-four hours he was unconscious, being injured about the head, chest, and abdomen. Dr. E. F. Ellis went to Carthage Thursday morning of last week and brought him back to Fayetteville that night. Wednesday he was able to go out to his home at Johnson, and as soon as he recovers sufficiently, will make another effort to go to New Mexico, which his friends trust will not be attended

by such disastrous results. Polk Williams and Charles Stearns stopped at Carthage to look after their stuff, but the rest of the party went on their way to New Mexico. The party had seven horses, one was killed, the others more or less injured, and they were left in the hands of the railroad company which will be expected to pay for them, along with most of the property destroyed.

E. Polk Williams Writes from New Mexico (Springdale, AR NEWS, 10-26-1906)

Portales, NM, Oct. 17, 1906

Dear Editor:

If it is not an imposition I would like to correspond with my many friends through your columns. I am sure more will hear from me this way than if I undertake to write to them personally.

I suppose most all have learned of the (railroad) wreck we had near Carthage, MO at 6:30 o'clock Sunday evening, September 30, where we lost all our goods and stock. We had loaded the car to its capacity, seven head of horses with three wagons, one two- horse hack, all our household goods, canned fruits, flour, meat, lard, everything we could think of that was necessary to make life comfortable on the plains. I didn't learn of the wreck until Tuesday evening after the wreck occurred, and felt very thankful that the two boys who were in the car got out as well as they did. Jim Mullins was badly shaken up but Shannon Clark came out with but two little scratches on his hand.

On Wednesday, October 3, Mr. Stearns, J. M. Dodson, J. B. Shannon, myself and wife visited the scene of the wreck and it was an awe-inspiring sight. Two of the largest engines on the Frisco had plunged headlong into each other, one coming down grade at 40 miles an hour, the other starting out with throttle wide open, making speed that it might climb the grade the other was coming down.

How anything lived in that terrible clash I cannot guess. Fifteen cars piled upon less space than four cars would cover standing on the track. The car that our outfit was in left the track on the opposite side to the others, and I think was the cause of our boys and stock coming out as well as they did, as it lay in a condition to get at. (3 R. R. men were killed.)

We feel very proud of the cool courage Shannon displayed in getting out his unconscious friend, Mr. Mullins, from among those powerful, plunging, excited horses. When the collision came the shock threw Shannon over the horses and the rebound threw him back again to the place where he started from. Mr. Mullins went under the horses where he became unconscious. He told me the last he remembered was the loud terrible neighing of the horses. He said he had never heard such noises as those horses made, all making a desperate effort to save their lives, and with almost human sense asking to be freed from their confinement so close to the smoke and flames that were coming so rapidly.

The car was lifted partly upon another car, leaving it standing on one corner, looking like it would topple over with the least provocation. But Shannon and the men that helped gave no attention until he had gotten his friend out, then they worked more cautious until they got the horses out. One large horse of Mr. Muillins had two of his legs broken and was shot and burned. The other six horses were all hurt, more or less, but I think they will all get well. We left them with the railroad company but do not know what disposition will be made of them.

Well I am writing this in the open, can see any direction as far as I care to. The plains here are not so level as to some places that I have been; just enough waves in the land to make it a little restful to the eyes. No timber except a little scrub mesquite, scattering tree cactus, and what is called here bear grass, grows in bunches like the

flag of our country, and makes this country look good to me. I think we have a very fine mulatto soil here. No sand nearer than about halfway between here and our town, Portales, which is about 22 miles northwest of us. I think the sand belt is about four miles north and south, don't know how far it extends east and west. This sand belt has been settled and they have some very good feed crops on it, and some corn. The crops for feed are mostly cane, kaffir corn and milo maize and some alfalfa; I don't see why we cannot raise most anything here that is necessary to make life comfortable with very little rain. Water here is from 80 to 225 feet deep and is very good soft water. When we get it in an abundance, a 14 feet windmill that lifts a stream of water cannot exhaust the seemingly inexhaustible supply. Near Portales the water is not so deep as this plains country. They get good water from 20 to 60 feet. If any of my friends think of moving from Arkansas, I would like they would see this country, but will advise them to be prepared to meet disappointments and hardships as this is a very desolate looking country, especially to people who have been in the sticks all their lives.

In the few days I have been here, there has sprung up numbers of little houses. Mr. Stearns and his daughter both have one. Where I am now all built on their own quarter section, but they are building so that four houses will be in a few feet of each other. There have been 20 or 25 houses gone up in the last few days within sight of here, and most all the people for 8 or 10 miles in every direction are from northwest Arkansas, so in very short time we will have plenty of neighbors that will not have strange ways.

All who came when I did have located but myself, and I think I will soon. Though land is scarce here that has not been filed on, there are plenty who have filed and will not come back, so they will sell out and relinquish for a small amount. This is the proposition that I am waiting for. As

soon as the relinquish papers get here for a quarter section I have fell in love with, I too will file.

Jeff Mullins and myself have bought wagons and teams and they will be kept busy hauling lumber, feed and grub for ourselves and neighbors. My many friends that read The News will please accept this as partly complying with promises made to write, and if this should miss the waste basket, they may hear from me again through The News..

With the best of wishes for The News and my Arkansas friends, and with great hopes of building up a little Democratic community that will be free from machine and bossing in politics, and free from the ban that has hovered over Arkansas for 6 years,

I remain sincerely yours,
E. P. Williams.

2 Nov 1906, Lowell, AR column: A letter from the Lowell colonists in Portales, NM says they are having some winter out there, everything being covered with ice. Well, they will mostly all find their way back to good old Arkansas - e're many moons away. 2 Nov 1906 Johnson, AR column: Uncle Polk Williams' letter was read with a great deal of interest by all of his Johnson friends, and Mully (code name for writer of column) is glad Uncle Polk is going to colonize Democrats out there in New Mexico, 'cause we can spare a whole lot of 'em from Arkansas. They'll not hurt anyone out in New Mexico, which is a Territory, and will be liable to remain so for a long time. R. H. Stokenberry and wife came out from Elkins today to visit relatives. They found the cold wave which Polk Williams has diverted up into this country from his frigid home out there in the New Mexico plains. 30 Nov 1906: Jim Mullins is still waiting here for settlement by the railroad for the wreck, and then will journey to New Mexico.

3 Apr 1908, Johnson, AR column: Uncle Polk Williams

At right in photo, E. Polk Williams, son of Rial and second wife, Kitty. Photo borrowed from Callie Robertson Webb, Feb. 1989. The other men are not identified. Could any of our readers help Mrs. Bobby Ware Wilson with name possibilities? Send names to Society office.

is holding an office under Roosevelt! He is now Postmaster at Inez, NM. Inez is a new office, established just a short time ago. Uncle Polk is the first Postmaster. Mully intends to go out and visit in New Mexico when Uncle Polk gets to be governor of that future

commonwealth! Uncle Polk, your Johnson friends would like to read one of your newsy letters, so get busy and write some of the experiences of a New Mexico Postmaster, and mail the contribution to *THE NEWS.*

In the same paper appeared a letter written 26 Mar, 1908 at Inex, N.M.: An Old *Arkansas Democrat* Has A Word. "Dear News; It has been some time since our little Democrat community has been represented in your paper, and I hope the little demagogue follower who gave me such an airing in that Little Rock paper, has been convinced of his error and has turned back from boss and machinism and has assisted in burying such unmanly ideas so deeply that they will never return to politics in Arkansas again.

I hope that the late canvass has opened the eyes of the people so they can not fail to see their heretofore idol has no other interest than to forward his own selfish motives. The idea of a United States Senator leaving his post as representative in that great body, to harass the people for two or three months, that he may be able to name the governor and by so doing be able to forward his selfish ambition as dictator, as though the voters had not sufficient sense to select a governor able to fill the office! It looks to me like a stroke at self government and an effort to build up plutocracy in a state that has stood very high in the ranks of statehood as being peopled by a sturdy, independent, democratic class that has always been supposed sufficiently well informed to take care of themselves at the polls or anywhere else.

If you see fit, put this in your paper. If it is not on the right line, consign it to the waste basket." E.P. Williams

POLK WILLIAMS WRITES ABOUT NEW MEXICO. Inez, N.M., 23 Apr 1908 (published May 1) "Editor NEWS: If you congratulate the voters of Arkansas I shall now kick, for a change is good, sometimes, even in politics

or rather in bosses.

I think Mully would like for me to write up New Mexico, and I felt competent I would make an attempt, but it has grown so fast since I came here, I don't know where to begin.

We have some one on each quarter section - no vacant land for miles, and a great many are making homes, while others are ready to sell their claims and quit the country.

Mully, the appointment that Uncle Sam gave me was all. I could congratulate myself and be content with the P.M. (postmaster) attachment and not feel out of line, as we have a democratic governor whose appointment came from the same Uncle Sam. But it did not stop at P.M. Just imagine J.P., and school director all in a bundle - is, I think, carrying things to extreme. So Mully, it may be necessary for you to come to see us in the near future, as I may be appointed to the exalted position you speak of very soon, and when I get the appointment I will expect the Editor of *THE NEWS* and all the correspondents as soon as I am inaugurated.

Jeff Mullins will leave us in a few days for his berry farm near Johnson. He can give a good history of New Mexico and the people, but don't guy him much about Jeff Davis' defeat, as he takes it hard enough anyway.

Our wheat is looking very well, rather too thick and it looks as if it would be rather short. Mr. Mullins, Jim and Tom will get something like 300 acres of their land in cultivation this season, if they keep pushing work as they have up to date. They have their cotton planted, some corn and are planting maize. They have about 35 acres in wheat. Shannon Clark has ten or twelve acres.

We have a school near by, a literary each Friday night and a dance just any old time. We moved to our reservation January 1st, and had a call from the young folks until about two o'clock, with music and dancing

continuously until home-going was in order. This was the first visit of the kind we ever had, and Bettie seemed to enjoy the company all right and, of course, I did. Nice crowd and plenty of them.

We are having some rain now, but we had a long drought from about the first of the year until this month, but moisture stayed in the ground and grass come on just the same. We will have a strong test of our land in the production of Irish potatoes this season. Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Hamby each had in four acres last season planted in June, which made more than two tons per acre of a very fine quality. Mr. Mullins and myself and others are starting orchards, and I think will succeed in growing lots of fine fruit." E.P. Williams

So life went on for the transplanted Arkansawyers. Having seen a printed invitation to a very special affair, this compiler wrote the newspaper, *PORTALES NEWS-TRIBUTE*, concerning editions published about 12 Mar 1924. They graciously sent me photocopies of two articles. The longer one "Uncle Polk and Aunt Betty's Golden Anniversary Celebrated at Inez" contained an 1874 picture of the bride and groom, as well as a 1924 picture of the white haired pair. The shorter article read: "A Golden Wedding Celebration. No finer thing can happen than was planned and put through in splendid style by the quiet little community of Inez, New Mexico, in the celebration of the Golden Wedding of Mr. E.P. (Uncle Polk) Williams and Mrs. Bettie (Aunt Bettie) Williams on March 12th last, at the church a short distance north of Inez, where Uncle Polk and Aunt Bettie reside. It appears that the ladies of the community, among whom were Mrs. E.T. Hensley, Mrs. B.B. Greathouse, Mrs. W.D. Greathouse, Mrs. Shannon Clark and others whose names we regret that we do not have, made all the necessary arrangements to celebrate this event; by having church appropriately decorated, and all adequate arrangements

for a magnificent three course luncheon, and in response to their suggestion, despite the very inclement weather some seventy-five friends assembled in advance of the arrival of Uncle Polk and Aunt Bettie at the church, and then messengers were detailed to announce to this splendid couple that their friends were waiting for them. Upon their arrival they were given that cordial welcome that indicates that a warm place in the hearts of all they so securely occupy.

Judge T.E. Mears was requested to act as toastmaster on the occasion, and after making appropriate remarks touching the sentiment of the occasion, and what a fine thing it was that during the fifty years of marriage, no act of their lives was other than an example of the highest exhibition of real manhood and womanhood. That their example as citizens in the community would serve as a model for honesty, virtue and courage to the younger generation; and that a community had but one sentiment on that day and to honor such a splendid couple. This was responded to by Mr. Fraze in a splendid speech, to the effect that the need of the country was for real men and real women,, and that Uncle Polk and Aunt Bettie measured up to this in the highest sense. In response to these remarks, Uncle Polk, with that courage that has always been his signal characteristic beaming from those steel gray eyes, and with his usual gallantry, said that the finest example and the finest inspiration for the youth of the land, was first a real mother and then a real wife.

After luncheon was served, several hours were spent in that friendly and enjoyable conversation that does so much to the hearts of people together in communities like this. It was the wish of all that Uncle Polk and Aunt Bettie would be spared to us many years yet, to lend their kind and sympathetic influence for the good of the community, and that their friends might have many more occasions to exhibit their loyalty."

(Note: Ellen Williams Merek of Bella Vista, daughter of Tom Williams whom the couple raised, said their friends in Inez presented them as a gift on the occasion, a 100 piece set of gold covered china.)

Sadly enough, the *NORTHWEST ARKANSAS TIMES* carried the following item on 9 Dec 1925: "Mrs. Polk Williams dies in New Mexico. Mrs. Bettie Shannon Williams, wife of Polk Williams, died recently at the family home in Inez, N.M., according to messages received here by relatives. Mrs. Williams was about 70 years of age. She was an aunt of Mrs. C.M. Lawson and of Mrs. A.I. Moore and was a sister of the late Mrs. Nannie Clark."

Finally from the 16 June 1927 *MADISON COUNTY (AR) RECORD*: "'Polk' Williams Dead. The following account of the death of E.P. Williams, a former well known citizen of Whitener, this county, is taken from the PORTALES, NEW MEXICO, *HERALD*: 'E.P. Williams, better known as Uncle Polk passed away at his home at Inez last Sunday at 7 o'clock.'"

Uncle Polk was born in Washington County, Arkansas, 5 May 1847, and was at the time of his death a few days more than eighty years of age. He grew to manhood in his native state and in 1874 was married to Miss Bettie Shannon of Washington County. This splendid couple never had any children of their own, but have been parents to twelve orphans.

In 1906 Mr. and Mrs. Williams came to New Mexico and settled at Inez, where they soon endeared themselves to the whole community and were affectionately referred to as "Uncle Polk and Aunt Bettie." They were both fine Christian characters and lived to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary. About two years ago Aunt Bettie was called home, and since that time Uncle Polk has failed quite rapidly, but his home at Inez has been managed by kindly relatives and friends who have done their utmost to

make the declining years of this noble gentleman happy.

The funeral services were conducted at Inez Monday afternoon by Rev. A. Rutledge and an immense crowd of friends and neighbors accompanied the body to the Inez Cemetery where Revs. Hall and Marshall had charge of the services and the body of this venerable man laid beside that of his noble wife. Uncle Polk leaves a half brother in Dallas (Warren Williams) who is 90 years old.

So the early prophecy came to pass, that they intended to settle in New Mexico and grow up with that country, a well respected couple, beloved by all who knew them.

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1-800-453-9450
August 17 and 18, 1991

Chairperson:
Hazel Kidd Lawson
14130 S.E. 17th Suite C-1
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HALE FAMILY REUNION

August 3, 1991
All Day: 10am - 6pm
Frank Wenzel Community Center, West Fork, Arkansas
Pot Luck
Coffee, Ice & Picnic supplies furnished

for info call:
Jim & Barbara Hale or Rosie Brown
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A TIME TO TRAIN:

The CPTP, WTS, and CTD at Fayetteville 1939-1944
by T. E. "Pete" Jordon

Approximately 2,800 persons took pilot training at Fayetteville's Drake Field, then called the Fayetteville Municipal Airport, as a part of various government pilot training programs before and during World War II. These programs were conducted by the University of Arkansas' Engineering School which handled the academic course work while the flying sections of the training program were subcontracted to the Fayetteville Flying Service.

Over time the names of the programs changed, but they all had the same goal- to create pilots for the military and to stimulate the civilian aviation market.

At Fayetteville these programs and their dates were:

- Civilian Pilot Training Program 1939-1941
- War Training Service 1942-1943
- College Training Detachment 1943-1944
- The Need

In 1938 the country was only three years from World War II but it had only 5,000 military pilots flying fewer than 1,000 aircraft. The numbers were slightly better for civilian pilots, who numbered 21,000 with 10,000 aircraft available, but large numbers of these pilots were not up to date with their licenses and many of their planes were not airworthy.

G. P. Stocker, Dean of the University of Arkansas' Engineering School, was the man responsible for bringing these pilot training programs to the Fayetteville airport. He wanted the University to have an aviation program. The vehicle he selected was the Government's Civilian Pilot Training Program (CPTP).

Standing, left to right: *Baxter, Donald; DeLamar, Brown, Gladney, Robert; Wilcoxen, Hardy; Driver, Charles; Woffard, Virgil; Martin, Charles; Purifoy, Winston; Jarvis, Pitts; Wilson, Walter.* ***Front row:*** *Gleason, James G.; Parham, Rodney; Whittington, Emmy; Youngblood, Gifford; Hickey, David; Toller, Audley; Atkinson, A. Stewart; Moore, Howard; Thomas, Woodlief; Ellis, Raymond J. (Not in picture: Adams, John; French, Margaret (Peggy); and Richardson, Kermit.)* *– Ray Ellis files*

The CPTP had been called the last of the New Deal programs. Originated in 1938 by the Civil Aeronautics Authority, the CPTP was designed to produce pilots and markets for the United States' floundering civilian aviation industry. Starting with only 13 colleges and 330 students, the program grew nationally to include a total of 1,132 colleges, 1,460 contract schools and 435,165 trainees.

The other goal of the CPTP was to create a pool of pilots who would be available should the United States find itself at war. Before World War II, the Army at Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas, and the Navy at Pensacola, Florida, were training about 1,000 pilots a year.

To bolster the number of pilots available for military service every CPTP, participant had to sign the following: "I pledge myself to apply for flight training in the U.S. Army when needed."

The Civilian Pilot Training Program

To join the CPTP, an applicant had to be a citizen of the United States between the ages of 19 and 27. If under the age of 21, the permission of parents or of a legal guardian was required. A student had to be enrolled at the sponsoring institution as a sophomore with a grade point average of not less that 1.5 or if not in school, the person must have completed at least two years of college. Also, a stringent physical examination must be passed with particular emphasis on good eyes and a strong heart.

Students in the CPTP were given 35 hours of flight instruction which led to a pilot's license award. All was in addition to their normal class work if in college. In the CPTP flight instruction classes were usually very small, generally one instructor to ten students.

In the CPTP, 10% of each class could be made up of women. At the Fayetteville program about half of that

quota was filled. On January 17, 1940 Maurice Ash (later McClelland) became the first woman to solo in the program.

The War Training Service

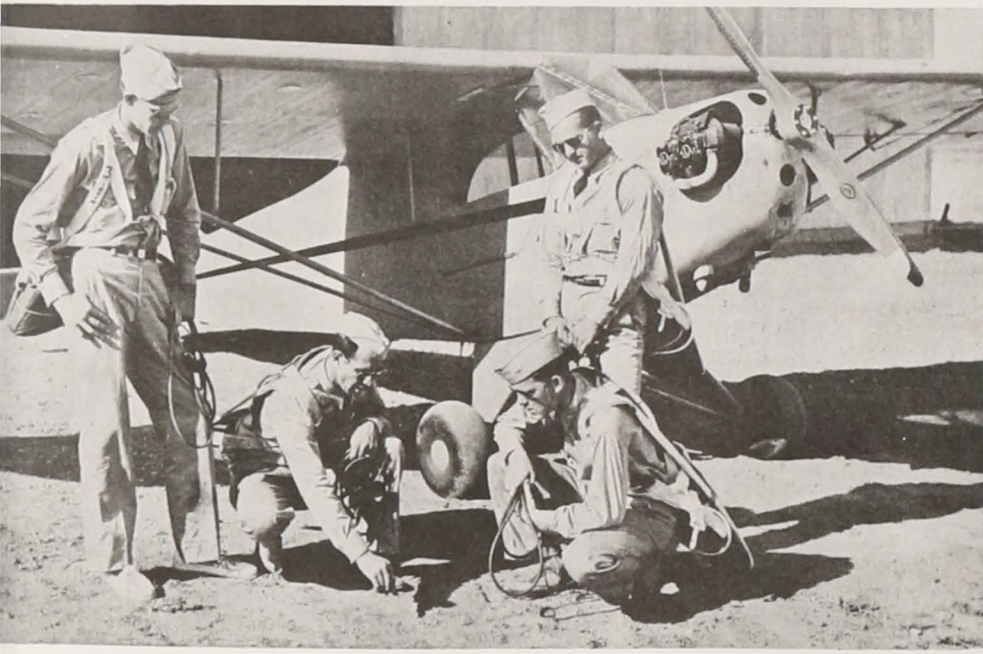
When the United States entered World War II, the CPTP was renamed the War Training Service (WTS). The number of hours flown by those in the program remained the same, but one major difference was that women were no longer included in the program. Another difference was that while CPTP participants were required to volunteer their services to the military in case of war, those in the WTS knew they were going to war.

The WTS brought additional training to Fayetteville. Training for instructors who would go on to other schools was added as well as advance secondary training for some students who had completed the primary training program already offered. For this advanced training four Howard DGA-18Ks, two Travel Air 4000s and two Fairchild 22CS were acquired.

Between the opening of the CPTP in 1939 and the close of the WTS in March 1943 approximately 180 elementary students, 80 secondary students, 20 secondary instructors and 5 elementary instructors were trained here. At this same time, over 150 private individuals received training for private, commercial and instructor ratings.

The 305th College Training Detachment

• On April 1, 1943, the Army Air Corps activated the 305th College Training Detachment (CTD) at the University of Arkansas. It was through this program that the bulk of pilots were trained. Many of the 305th CTD trainees had already completed one tour of duty and were in this detachment to start their careers as officers in the Army Air Corps.



Herschel Choice, Ray Ellis, Audabon H. Neff, and W.R. "Dub" Hudspeth – all instructors. Choice, Neff and Hudspeth (Muskogee) came to us from schools in Texas.

Only ten hours of flight instruction were given to each cadet. However, the academic side of the program more than made up for the lessened number of flying hours. While they were in the program each cadet received 80 hours of mathematics, 180 hours of physics, 60 hours each of English, geography, and history, and 20 hours each of medical aid and civil air regulations.

Over the fifteen months that the 305th was active at Fayetteville, 2,514 men completed their ten hours of primary flight training. That was an average of over 150 persons a month taking some part of their training. It is easy to imagine how hectic the field must have been at times.

To handle the increased pressure of those extra trainees, a white hangar was added to the field, at last,

giving the Fayetteville Flying Service a place where men could be trained, and most of the training aircraft could be stored out. With the dedication of this hangar in June, 1944, a new era was on the horizon for Fayetteville's program.

Sadly, within days of its dedication, the Army Air Corps announced that the 305th was to be phased out. It was through the Training Detachment (CTD) at the U of A that the bulk of pilots were trained. Many of the 305th CTD trainees had already completed one tour of duty and were in this detachment to start their careers as officers in the Army Air Corps. It was obvious even in 1944 that the war was won.

"Bill Cush"

Death in Missouri of William Quesenbury,
A Distinguished Arkansas Scholar and Poet.
A Few Points About His Life From Former Friends.

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Hot Springs, Sept. 4— I enclose a letter from Hon. Marcenas E. Benton, United States attorney, who resides at Neosho, Mo., but writes from the capital of Missouri, announcing the death of Major William Quesenbury, from heart-disease, at Neosho on the 30th ult.

Major Quesenbury was a Mexican war veteran, and for a long time resident of Boonsboro and Fayetteville, in Washington County, in this state, and was widely known to our citizens for his fine lliterary abillity, his brilliant wit

and nobility of soul. This letter pays him a just and eloquent tribute.

Very Truly, J. M. Harrell.

Jefferson City, MO., Sept. 2— I have just learned that my old neighbor, and our esteemed mutual friend, Major William Quesenbury, died suddenly of heart-disease last Thursday night. It was a shock to me. Though he has been quite feeble for a year, I did not look for his death. I left him that day. Though I have known him scarce ten years, he was my close friend. He was a connecting link between the yesterday and today of western and southern history. Well informed, genial, honest, truthful, he was a valued man to use in this age of insincerity. He was typical of a class of good, true men who lived in the '40's and '50's in Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas and Missouri. With no care for the morrow, no desire to acquire wealth, bubbling up with great good humor, faithful to friends. Such as he are fast passing away, and our country is no better for their departure. I felt you would care to know of his death. To him I owed the pleasure of your acquaintance. He will not need the whetstone. I hope the recent flood did not damage you.

Very truly, M. E. Benton

Major William E. Woodruff.

"Yes, I knew Quesenbury; and so he is dead. He was brilliant, intellectual and witty, and withal a very fine writer. He was editor at one time of the Southwestern Independent, at Fayetteville, and afterwards established the Tablet, a Masonic paper in Texas. He was also chief quartermaster on Gen. Pike's staff during the war."

"Before the war Quesenbury lived at Fayetteville and edited the Independent. The paper afterwards became the Arkansan, having been purchased by Boudinot & Pettigrew. He married Miss Adaline Parks of Cane Hill,

by whom he had several children. Albert Pike was probably his dearest friend. He was a very fine poet as well as scholar."

"Yes, I knew Quesenbury very well, and am very sorry to hear of his death," said a well-known citizen last night to a reporter of The Gazette. "He was a very bright man intellectually, a poet and a writer. I saw him last in June, 1878, when he was in Little Rock. He had spent the evening with a friend, and returning to the hotel wrote out his experience like this:

Saw tufa, quartz, novaculite,
And bade him forwith goodnight.

He was here several weeks and returned to Western Arkansas. That, I think, was his last visit to Little Rock."

J. B. Moore

Reproduced from the holdings of the Special Collections Department, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville

In Ellen Earle Richardson's "Early Settlers of Cane Hill" (no.9 in the Bulletin Series published by the Washington County Historical Society in 1955), page 38, she says that Oscar Morrow, grandson of Elizabeth Buchanan and Rev. George Morrow, has the Bible showing the children of John Buchanan by his two wives. John Buchanan died in Pulaski Co., AR in 1820 and many of his descendants moved to Washington Co., AR, including Elizabeth, wife of George Morrow.

I would be most grateful if anyone knows the whereabouts of this Bible and could make copies of the pages showing these Buchanan children and any other genealogical information recorded therein. I will be glad to pay for copies and postage. Nancy Maxwell, 10299 Alder Court, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730.

WANTED:

Photographs of Early Canning Factories in Washington County.

Your Editorial Committee is sponsoring a report on old canning facilities which is being written by Phillip Steele of Springdale. The Committee is asking for your help and cooperation to gather as many photographs of this unique bit of Washington County's history as possible.

All photos will be returned to senders if requested. Please have your material well identified as to time, place, and people involved.

Thanks for your help!

Lloyd O. Warren, Chairman

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